Airlines and Government accommodations due priority is to be given to the Members of Parliament.

(b) and (c) Occasionally some complaints are received about non-observance of these instructions and in all such cases the matter is taken up with the concerned authority by the concerned Ministry/Department for report/remedial action.

Regional benches of Supreme Court

*342. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the that Indian Council of Jurists and the All India Bar Association have urged the Supreme Court to reconsider its decision against setting up regional benches of Apex Court in Chennai, Kolkata and Mumbai; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANSRAJ BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) According to information received from the Supreme Court of India, no request has been received by them from the Indian Council of Jurists and the All India Bar Association to reconsider its decision against setting up of regional benches of Apex Court in Chennai, Kolkata and Mumbai.

According to article 130 of the Constitution, "the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the President, from time to time, appoint." However, the Chief Justice of India as well as the Full Court have been consistently opposed to the proposal for setting up of Benches of the Supreme Court in the South and other regions of the country.

Recruitment of teachers by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

*343. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of teachers recruited by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that knowledge of Hindi is compulsory for the post of teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(c) if so, the details thereof and since when this has-been made compulsory; and

(d) whether Government would relax this condition to accommodate candidates of the non-Hindi States?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The number of teachers recruited by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan during the last three years are given below:

SI.No.	Year	No. of teachers selected for appointment.
1.	2002-2003	1081
2.	2003-2004	2384
3.	2004-2005	1571

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Proficiency/Competency in teaching through Hindi and English is an essential qualification for appointment of teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas.

Hindi was made an essential qualification for appointment to the posts of Post Graduate Teachers and Trained Graduate Teachers since the Nineties and for Primary Teachers since the Eighties. Upto the recruitment year 2002-2003, the knowledge of Hindi and English was assessed through interview, however, from the recruitment year 2003-2004 proficiency/ competency of teaching through Hindi and English is tested through bilingual tests in Hindi and English.

(d) The Kendriya Vidyalayas are established mainly with the aim of providing uninterrupted education with common curriculum and medium of instruction to the children of Central Government employees, including Defence and Para-Military Personnel. These employees have All India transfer liability. Teachers of Kendriya Vidyalayas also have All India transfer liability. Relaxing the essential qualification of proficiency of teaching through Hindi is therefore not practicable.